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Opinion Essay D1

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Highness Zayed Bin Sultan did something in 2001 makes many people in my country and the neighbor countries divide in two parts, part supported the idea, and I am one of them, and the other opposed the idea. His highness allowed prayers in school and allocated an open amount of money to build places to pray for the students depend on the religions on each school. Many people disagree and said that there will be waste of time, interrupting the students and the teachers and will enlarge the gap between the students who are not believe on the same religion. Consequently, there was a period of time that citizens and immigrants were arguing each other it “should”, no it “shouldn’t”. On that time, the same title printed on many newspapers all over the country, as if the newspaper’s leaders agreed to write the same title; which was “Should prayer be allowed in schools?”

On that time, I was in my primary school and I was not really aware about what is going on in our school. Every morning different group of students tries to persuade the others to do something. I was not really sure what was it because the students and the teachers used high level and complicated words in order to grab and persuade the other side. I voted yes, because I knew that “yes” will change something in the school and I wanted to see the change. Two years later, “Now, I am old enough to understand what was happening”. I surprised from the decision that the other side (shouldn’t) was supporting because of three reasons. These reasons are, it is a freedom, and some parents wanted their children to grow up with a good religious basic.

One of the major things that comes with every single child when he/she born and never leave him until he/she died is freedom. If I was born free, no one has the right to take off my freedom except the one who gave it to me (The God). No one can prevent a person from doing something forever. For example about school, if there is a place to pray and there is a student want to pray, the school cannot prevent him from praying or at least this prevention will not exist for a long time. If the school closes the place that students use to pray in, the student will pray as soon as they arrived home because this is the habits that they grew up with. Unfortunately, there will be bad consequences that will harm the school itself. First, some students will not be comfortable in the school and that’s may lead the students to have bad grades at the end. Second, the students who have been prevented from praying will see and think that everything is against them; but, in fact, it is not. Last but not least, Students may take the decisions to leave the school in order to find the freedom that they are missing. There is only one solution in this situation, which is “ give the students the freedom to do the things that they want unless these things will harm the public”.

One of the reasons that made many parents participate and vote that prayer should be allowed in schools is that these parents want their children to grow up with the “religion” stated in their son’s mind. These parents also believe that schools should teach the students the religious lessons before the other lessons. As a result, if the school refuses to let the students pray, parents would transfer their children to another school would allow it and these schools are the only looser side.

Finally, these are the reasons which made me insisted that the prayer should be allowed in schools. Especially nowadays, because of the knowledge that arrived everywhere. Also, because of the universities or the places that graduated educated people who can see beyond the surface and pick the best decisions. In all, all of that happened because of the good vision of highness Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan which was focusing on the future more than the present.